

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-4, 6-8, 10 and 11 are pending in the present application, of which claim 10 is the sole independent claim. Claims 1, 5, 9 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 10 and 11 have been amended by this Amendment.

Telephone Interview

Applicants acknowledge the telephone interview conducted on August 2, 2010 between Applicants' representative, Examiner Rezwanul Mahmood and Examiner Mahmood's supervisor Charles Rones. Applicants thank the Examiner and his supervisor for their time and for discussing Applicants' proposed amendments to the claims. In particular, Applicants thank the Examiner and his supervisor for their indication that the claims would be patentable over the currently applied art if amended as shown in the listing of claims presented herewith.

Claim Objections

Claim 12 stands objected to as a duplicate copy of claim 10. Claim 12 is canceled by this Amendment and, therefore, any objection to or rejection of claim 12 is rendered moot.

Claims 10-12 stand objected to because the phrase "operable to" purportedly refers to intended use and renders the claimed feature as optional. Claims 10 and 11 have been amended to change the phrase "operable to" to the phrase "configured to", as suggested by the Examiner in the above-noted telephone interview. Claim 12 has been canceled by this Amendment.

Withdrawal of these objections is therefore requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Claims 2-4, 6, 7, and 10-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,505,215 (“Kruglikov”) in view of U.S. Patent 6,824,064 (“Guthery”), and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,779,002 (“Mwaura”). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kruglikov in view of Guthery, Mwaura, and U.S. Patent 6,676,022 (“Guthery ‘022”).

Independent claim 10 has been amended and now recites, *inter alia*, “loading an application into a security token coupled to the mobile first data processing system, the application configured to remotely request that the mobile first data processing system start a synchronization process of the first database with the second database according to a synchronization policy” and “if a synchronization is needed, transmitting, by the application, a remote command to the mobile first data processing system that informs the mobile first data processing system that a new synchronization is requested, said remote command providing the mobile first data processing system with information about synchronization parameters for use in synchronizing content of the first and second databases”. Support for the amendments to claim 10 is found at least in paragraph 19 of Applicants’ published application and Applicants’ Fig. 1.

Applicants again thank the Examiner for his indication that claim 10 would be patentable over the currently applied art if amended to include the above-recited features. Accordingly, independent claim 10 is now deemed to be patentable over the currently applied art.

Applicants’ disclosed embodiments are directed to the synchronization of a database contained in a mobile first data processing system with another database contained in a network operator server (i.e. the “second data processing system”). In accordance with the invention, an operator or network-supplied application is loaded into a security token, such as a SIM card, that

is coupled to the mobile first data processing system. The application is operable to request that the mobile first data processing system start a synchronization process between the database stored in the mobile first data processing system and the database stored in the network operator server in accordance with a specific operator/network synchronization policy.

The security token does not contain the database, i.e., the application and the database are separate and located in different devices. In other words, the application loaded in the security token provides a remote command to the mobile first data processing system to start the synchronization process. The security token is thus a third party to a system that includes the mobile first data processing system and the network operator server. A user of the mobile first data processing system cannot start or initiate synchronization for any database in the mobile first data processing system because such control is located remotely, in the application in the security token, from the mobile first data processing system (which contains the database). Synchronization is instead started automatically by the security token, which does not contain the database.

Kruglikov discloses a system for synchronizing a portable system (110), e.g., a handheld device, with a personal computer (150). The Examiner concedes that Kruglikov does not disclose “a security token coupled to the mobile first data processing device, loading the application in the security token,” but purportedly finds “an application in the mobile first data processing system, the application being operable to request that the mobile first data processing system start a synchronization process of the first database with the second database according to a synchronization policy.” (See Office Action at page 4).

However, the portions of Kruglikov cited by the Examiner disclose only user-initiated synchronization, i.e., synchronization which is initiated locally by a user by placing the portable

system in a cradle (see, e.g., col. 4, lines 35-38). Moreover, the Examiner acknowledges that the application for synchronization in Kruglikov is located in the same data processing system that stores the database. In other words, the application in Kruglikov is not coupled to the portable computer system that stores the database, and the synchronization in Kruglikov is not initiated by a remote command. The Examiner has not identified anything in Kruglikov that teaches or suggests “loading an application into a security token coupled to the mobile first data processing system, the application configured to remotely request that the mobile first data processing system start a synchronization process of the first database with the second database according to a synchronization policy” and “if a synchronization is needed, transmitting, by the application, a remote command to the mobile first data processing system that informs the mobile first data processing system that a new synchronization is requested, said remote command providing the mobile first data processing system with information about synchronization parameters for use in synchronizing content of the first and second databases”, as recited in Applicants’ independent claim 10.

The Examiner further cites Guthery as purportedly teaching “a security token coupled for communication with the mobile first data processing system and an application being loaded into the security token.”

Guthery relates to a smart card capable of storing a number of applications and a memory that is logically partitioned into a number of memory blocks. Guthery’s system seeks to allow simultaneous communication with more than one of the applications. To do so, it is necessary to dynamically allocate the scarce memory of the smartcard. This is done using a control program stored on the smartcard. (See Abstract of Guthery and col. 2, lines 52-58).

Guthery does not address database synchronization and, therefore, does not teach or suggest “loading an application into a security token coupled to the mobile first data processing system, the application configured to remotely request that the mobile first data processing system start a synchronization process of the first database with the second database according to a synchronization policy” and “if a synchronization is needed, transmitting, by the application, a remote command to the mobile first data processing system that informs the mobile first data processing system that a new synchronization is requested, said remote command providing the mobile first data processing system with information about synchronization parameters for use in synchronizing content of the first and second databases”, as recited in Applicants’ independent claim 10. Guthery, therefore, does not remedy the deficiencies of Kruglikov, discussed above, with respect to these claimed features.

The Examiner contends that Guthery broadly teaches “loading the application in the security token.” However, Guthery does not teach that any application can or should be loaded into the smartcard, as the Examiner suggests. Rather, Guthery simply teaches the use of multiple conventional security-related applications on a smart card, such as for use with credit card terminals, automated teller machines (ATMs), and mobile phones, with the additional inclusion on the smart card of a memory administration program that allows simultaneous communication with these various applications while dynamically allocating the smartcard’s scarce memory:

The present invention provides tight linkage between the communication with smart card applications, allocation of scarce resources within the smart card, and the scheduling of execution of those applications. The system and method is constructed to embrace and be compatible with current modes of smart card usage.

(Guthery at col. 7, lines 36-42).

Therefore, even assuming, *arguendo*, that Kruglikov discloses the claimed application “operable to request that the mobile first data processing system start a synchronization process of the first database with the second database according to a synchronization policy,” as the Examiner contends, the combination of Kruglikov and Guthery would not teach or suggest a first database that is stored in a portable system remote from a synchronization program loaded into the smartcard, or that a remote command is provided to the portable system from the smart card to start the synchronization process. Rather, this combination of references would, at most, teach the use of a smartcard as a security device, with the synchronization program being stored on the portable system, rather than in the smartcard because that is where Kruglikov expressly teaches that the synchronization program is stored, and Guthery fails to provide any teaching with respect to such a synchronization program.

Moreover, Guthery describes a plurality of applications that are run at the same time. In contrast, Applicants’ claimed invention is directed to only a single application that transmits “a remote command to the mobile first data processing system that informs the mobile first data processing system that a new synchronization is requested”. It is only after this synchronization that the mobile first data processing system, which stores the first database remotely from the application, initiates “the synchronization process of the first and second databases in response to receiving the remote command”.

The third cited reference, Mwaura, discloses a computer software framework and method for synchronizing data across multiple databases involving the exchange of data synchronization messages. The Examiner cites Mwaura as purportedly teaching receiving a message by an application and determining if synchronization is needed by checking whether the message is relevant and, if so, taking a synchronization action. However, nothing has been found in

Mwaura that would remedy the deficiencies of the combination of Kruglikov and Guthery with respect to the features of independent claim 10 discussed above.

Therefore, the Examiner's *prima facie* case in support of the rejection of independent claims 10 suffers from the additional deficiency that the cited references do not disclose the claimed feature: "a first database that is stored in a mobile first data processing system" and "loading an application into a security token coupled to the mobile first data processing system, the application configured to remotely request that the mobile first data processing system start a synchronization process of the first database with the second database according to a synchronization policy".

Independent claim 10 is accordingly deemed to be patentably distinct over the cited art for at least the foregoing reasons.

Regarding motivation to combine the cited references, the Examiner, citing Guthery, asserts:

[I]t would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art . . . to modify the teachings of Kruglikov with the teachings of Guthery to have a data processing system include a security token controlled by an operator and load an application into the security token to move the administration of simultaneous communication with multiple applications on a smart card into the smart card itself.

(Office Action at pages 4-5, emphasis added). However, the rationale offered by the Examiner merely addresses why one of ordinary skill in the art would have: (1) combined a smart card security device with Kruglikov's portable system; and (2) included a multiple-application administration program on the smart card itself. The Examiner's rationale does not address why one of ordinary skill in the art would have loaded a portable/remote database synchronization program into the smart card.

Therefore, the *prima facie* case in support of the rejection of independent claim 10 suffers from the additional deficiency that the Examiner has failed to show proper motivation for the proffered combination and modification of the cited references necessary to support the rejections.

In view of the above, it is submitted that *prima facie* obviousness has not been established with respect to Independent claim 10.

Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection of independent claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, and of all of the claims depending from this claim, be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration, and withdrawal of all rejections, and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully solicited.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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